

TWO LETTERS

Sent from the *Earle of Strafford*, one to
his Lady in Ireland a little before his death :

And another to a certaine great
LADIE.



Printed in the yeare 1641.

TWO
LETTERS

Sent from the Earl of Devon, to
his Lady in Ireland a little before his death;
And another to a certain friend
in Dublin.



Printed in the Year 1711

LETTER SENT
FROM THE EARLE
OF STRAFFORD TO HIS
LADY INTO IRELAND a little

before his death. May the 11.

1641.

You shall receive my dear wife,
my last words, in these my last
times; my love I send that you
may keepe it when I am dead, and my
counsell that you may remember it when
I am no more: I would not with my will
pursue you sorrowes (dear wife) let them
go to the grave with me and be buried in
the dust, and seeing it is not the will of
God, that I shall see you any more, beare
my distraction patiently, and with an
heart like your selfe.

First, I send you all the thanks which
my heart can conceive or my words ex-
presse, for your many travells and cares

for me; which though they have not taken effect as you wished, yet my debt to you is no lesse; but pay it I never shall in this world.

Secondly, I beseech you for the love you bare me living, that you do not hide your self many daies, but by your travell seek to helpe the miserable fortune and the right of your poore children, your mourning cannot availe any thing that am but dust.

Thirdly, you shall understand that my lands were conveyed (*bona fide*) unto my sonne, the writings were drawne at Midsummer was twelve month, as divors can witnesse: to what friend to direct you I know not, for all mine have left me in the true time of triall; most sorry am I that being thus surpris'd by death I can leave you no better estate; God hath prevented all my determinations, that great God that worketh all in all; & if you can live free from want, care for no more, for the rest is but vanity. Love God and begin betimes in him, so shall you find true everlasting comfort, when you have travelled

travell'd and wearied your selfe with
all sorts of worldly cogitations, you shall
sit down with sorrow in the end: Teach
your sonne also to feare and serve God
whilst he is yong, that the feare of God
may grow upon him; then will God be a
husband to you, and a father to him, and
a husband and a father that never can be
taken away from you.

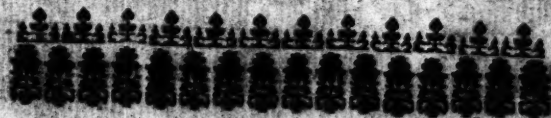
Bala oweth me 10000 pound, and Ari-
an 100 pound, in Iernsey I have also
much owing me.

Deare wife, I beseech you for my
soules sake, pay all poore men when I am
dead: no doubt you shall be much sought
unto, for the world thinkes I was very
rich. Have a care to faire pretence of men,
for no greater misery can befall you in
this life, then to be a prey unto the world,
and after to be despised. I speake, God
knowes, not to dissuade you from ma-
rying againe, for that will be the best for
you, both in respect of God, and of the
world. As for me, I am no more yours,
nor you mine; death hath cut us asunder,

and God hath divided me from the world
and you from me. Remember my childre
for his fathers sake, who loved you in his
happiest estate. I died for my life, but
God knowes it was for you and yours
that I desired it, for know it, my deare
wife, your child is the son of a true man,
who in his owne respect despised his
death.

I cannot write much, God knowes
how hardly I make time, when all are
asleepe: And it is also time to separate my
thoughts from the world. Beg my dead
body, which living was denied, and let
me lay it in Alesund or Antley by my
Father and mother. I can say no more,
and death calls me away. The ever
lasting God, powerfull, infinite, incru-
table, God almighty, who is goodnesse it
selfe, the trauelight and life, keepe you and
yours, and have mercy upon me.

My deare wife farewell. Lord blesse
my boy. Pray for me: and let my true
God hold you both in his armes.



A Letter sent unto a certaine great
Lady, and lately discovered by
strange accident,

May, 1641.

Madame :

Although there bee some discovery made
knowne, yet what is intended is made secure,
wherefore you must procure two thousand
pound speedily ; for no danger less difficulty to com-
passe it, if you keepe secret : Remember your oath,
for we shall slay the Beast with many heads, and de-
stroy the Devils brood before they dream or mistrust.
Burne the Letter you have received, your reward
shall be in Heaven.

F I N I S.